

FOUR NEW CENTIPEDS OF THE GENUS *CRYPTOPS*

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The types of the following new species of *Cryptops* were found among material taken at quarantine and submitted to me for identification by the United States Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

Cryptops nautiphilus Chamberlin, n. sp.

Cephalic plate with posterior margin free and overlapping the first dorsal plate; without longitudinal sulci. First dorsal plate with a sharply impressed transverse sulcus which is angled at the middle; behind this a W-shaped impression with longitudinal sulcus proceeding caudad from each angle of the W. The succeeding tergites bisulcate except the last, which bears a large, suboval, median impression; median keel not developed. Anterior margin of prosternum nearly straight, bearing few setæ. Ventral plates smooth, most showing a distinct median longitudinal sulcus crossed by a transverse one, the parts of which are commonly oblique. Last ventral plate short and broad, subsemicircular. Stigma elliptic. Pseudopleuræ subtruncate posteriorly, pores in an anterior patch, not reaching caudal margin by a wide space. Tarsi of all but posterior legs single jointed. Prefemur and femur of anal legs flattened above, sulcate over distal portion; prefemur with numerous spines beneath and laterally, the femur similarly armed on mesal and ventral surfaces; tibia with three stout curved teeth along ventromesal edge; first tarsal article with two similar teeth of which the distal one is larger and is near middle of length of joint. Length, 19 mm.

From Mexico. One specimen taken on banana leaf at quarantine in New Orleans, August 13, 1936.

Nautiphilus suggests *detectus* Silvestri, but is a larger species differing in having only three ventral teeth on tibia of anal legs, instead of six, and in various other details.

Cryptops venezuelæ Chamberlin, n. sp.

Dorsum in general dusky with head, first tergite, and last tergite, together with all appendages, yellow. Cephalic plate without sulci. First dorsal plate without either transverse or longitudinal sulci. The following dorsal plates likewise without complete sulci; these complete only on more posterior plates. Ventral plates with sulci forming a cruciform impression. Last ventral

plate with caudal margin straight or nearly so, the posterior corners rounded. Pseudopleuræ truncate, with pores small, about a dozen on each side in a triangular patch below ventral plate and with apex caudad, not reaching posterior margin. Tarsi of all but posterior legs one-jointed. Prefemur and femur flattened above and sulcate at distal end; bearing on mesal and ventral surfaces numerous short spines and prefemur with some on outer face where femur bears finer hairs or setæ; both of these articles without teeth except a dentiform process of intermediate character at distal end of femur below. Tibia with a series of five (six on one side) teeth and the first article of tarsus with two. Length about 10 mm.

From Venezuela, taken at quarantine in Washington, D. C., July 22, 1936.

Cryptops watsingus Chamberlin, n. sp.

Color yellow throughout. Cephalic plate not sulcate. First dorsal plate with transverse sulcus angled at the middle behind which is the typical W-shaped mark followed by the usual paired sulci. The following tergites with typical paired sulci. Prosternal margin straight or but slightly bowed, with setæ sparse. Ventral plates with cruciform impression. Last ventral plate with corners widely rounded, the median portion of caudal margin straight. Tarsi of all except posterior legs uniarticulate. Pseudopleuræ apparently without pores, in their usual position an area of short spinous points. Prefemur and femur clothed with the usual spines, those on ventral surface of femur more sparse, these articles with finer, sparse hair above and ectally; no teeth; both joints sulcate at distal end above. Tibia of anal legs with four equal teeth below, the first tarsal joint with three. Length, 20 mm.

From Guatemala, taken at New Orleans in debris on bananas, July 23, 1936.

Cryptops positus Chamberlin, n. sp.

Cephalic plate free and overlapping the first dorsal plate, without sulci. First dorsal plate with sharply impressed, transverse sulcus angled at middle; paired sulci very fine, ending in a W-mark caudad of transverse sulcus. Tergites finely bisulcate except the last which has a median depression; no median keel. Prosternal margin straight. Ventral plates with the usual cruciform impression. Last ventral plate wide, sides converging caudad, the caudal corner widely rounded. Pseudopleuræ truncate; pores in a patch along ventral plate, not reaching caudal margin by a wide space. Tarsi of all but posterior legs one-jointed. Prefemur and femur of anal legs flattened above and below, dorsally sulcate from end to end, the sulcus deepest caudally; these joints bearing

numerous spines ventrally and mesally as usual but having a narrow longitudinal glabrous band along mesal face of femur; femur with a tooth on mesoventral edge about one-fourth the length from the caudal end; tibia with a series of four teeth; first tarsal joint with two ventral teeth. Length, 17.5 mm.

Holotype from Honduras; one specimen taken at New Orleans November 1, 1937. Paratype from Nicaragua; two specimens taken at quarantine at New Orleans, November 21, 1936.

Very close to *C. nautiphilus*, but a more robust species with the articles of the anal legs decidedly thicker and proportionately shorter.

NOTES ON THE MELOIDÆ

Lytta agrestis Fall (1901), described from three specimens in the American Museum of Natural History, is extremely rare and apparently unrepresented in any of the larger western collections. Recently, however, Mont Cazier called my attention to four perfect male specimens of this species taken by R. P. Allen, 20 miles east of Tuba City, (northeastern) Arizona, on June 26, 1938.

Also taken at the same locality was a unique damaged specimen which P. J. Darlington, Jr., was kind enough to compare with Leconte's type of *Lytta cribrata*. This species was taken by the Mexican Boundary Commission (1853) and is apparently known only from the type. Unfortunately the condition of the Tuba City specimen made it impossible to positively identify, although it did seem to approach the type.

Epicauta magnomaculata J. O. Martin (1932) was described from a series of nine specimens taken at Ballarat, Panamint Valley, Inyo County, California, May, 1931. I had never seen any other specimens except this series in the California Academy of Sciences until recently when looking over some material taken by Messrs. J. DuBois, B. White and V. Wooley. They took 112 specimens from two bushes of Arrow-weed, *Pluchea sericea*, at Stove Pipe Wells, Death Valley, California, on April 13, 1938. It is interesting to note the manifestation of their gregarious habit, the specimens having been taken on two bushes close together while, although a considerable area surrounding these bushes was surveyed, no additional specimens were found.—K. L. Maehler.